

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend claims 1, 6, 8, 17-18, 22, 24 and 26, as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A large-waterplane-area ship, comprising:
a hull structure having a plurality of exclusive hull portions protruding from a main body of the hull structure, each hull portion having a length shorter than the length of the main body and each hull portion comprising a buoyant portion having a buoyancy wherein the combined buoyancy of each hull portion is sufficient to support the main body above a waterline, and wherein each of the ~~hull~~ buoyant portions is at least partially above the waterline during operation of the ship.
2. (Original) The ship of claim 1 wherein the plurality of hull portions comprise a triangular pattern.
3. (Original) The ship of claim 1 wherein the plurality of hull portions comprise a quadrangular pattern.
4. (Original) The ship of claim 1 wherein the plurality of hull portions comprise a octangular pattern.
5. (Original) The ship of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of exclusive hull portions each has a Froude number greater than approximately 0.8 during a cruising mode of operation of the ship.
6. (Currently Amended) A large-waterplane-area ship, comprising:
a hull structure having a plurality of exclusive hull portions protruding from a main body of the hull structure, each hull portion having a Froude number greater than approximately 0.8 during a cruising mode of operation of the ship, each hull portion being comprising a buoyant portion at least partially above a waterline during the cruising mode of operation.